



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF FORESTRY, FIRE AND STATE LANDS

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NEWS RELEASE

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STATE FORESTER HONORS SANTA CLARA FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Santa Clara Fire Department has been honored as a recipient of the Utah State Forester's Award for 2003. The Santa Clara Fire Department is recognized as a leader in the fire suppression services in Washington County and an example of unselfish commitment to fire departments statewide.

"These firefighters have invested considerable personal time to attend class, respond to fires and support the county and the Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands," explained State Forester Joel Frandsen. "It's this sustained level of commitment that makes this department stand out from so many others and become a real asset to the county and the state."

During 2003 the department worked extensively with individual homeowners as well as entire communities to create plans to protect themselves from wildland fire. They have also attended extensive training to increase their value to the firefighting community and as a result were used on numerous fires throughout their area.

"The Santa Clara Fire Department is a perfect example of how local fire departments can work cooperatively with state and federal agencies to increase the capabilities of all," declared Frandsen.

During the Apex fire that burned nearly 30,000 acres near St. George in June 2003, the Santa Clara Fire Department supplied an engine and staffing for various roles on the incident management team, and developed a suppression plan and structure protection plan for the potential threat to homes in the Gunlock area.

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